

# Star Formation Highlights from the Spitzer Space Telescope

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# Outline

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- Sampler of Star Formation Results from Spitzer
- Examples from Spitzer Young Disks Program
- Look beyond Spitzer

– Articles are now available on SSC Web Site:

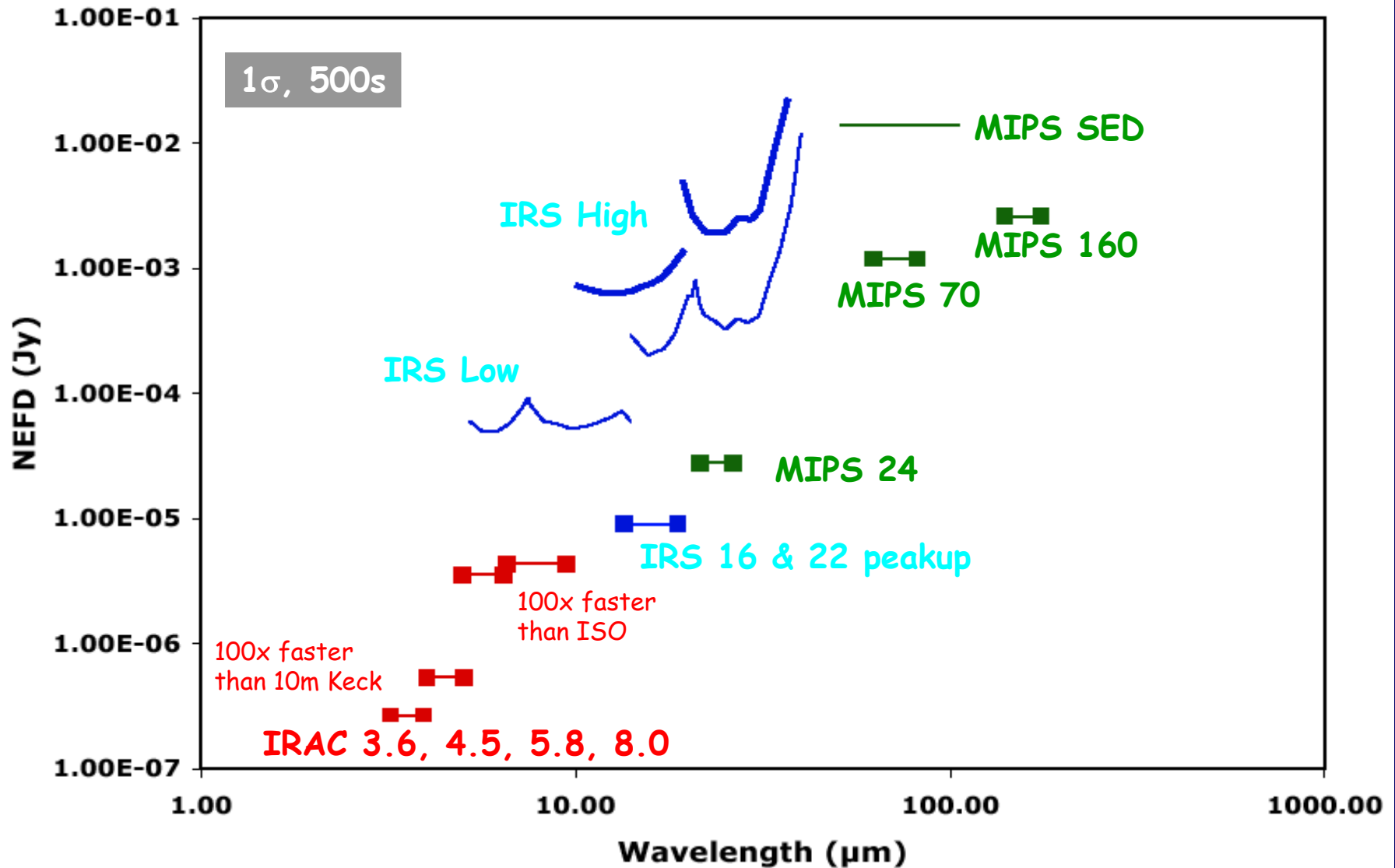
<http://ssc.spitzer.caltech.edu/pubs/journal2004.html>

# Key Spitzer Advancements

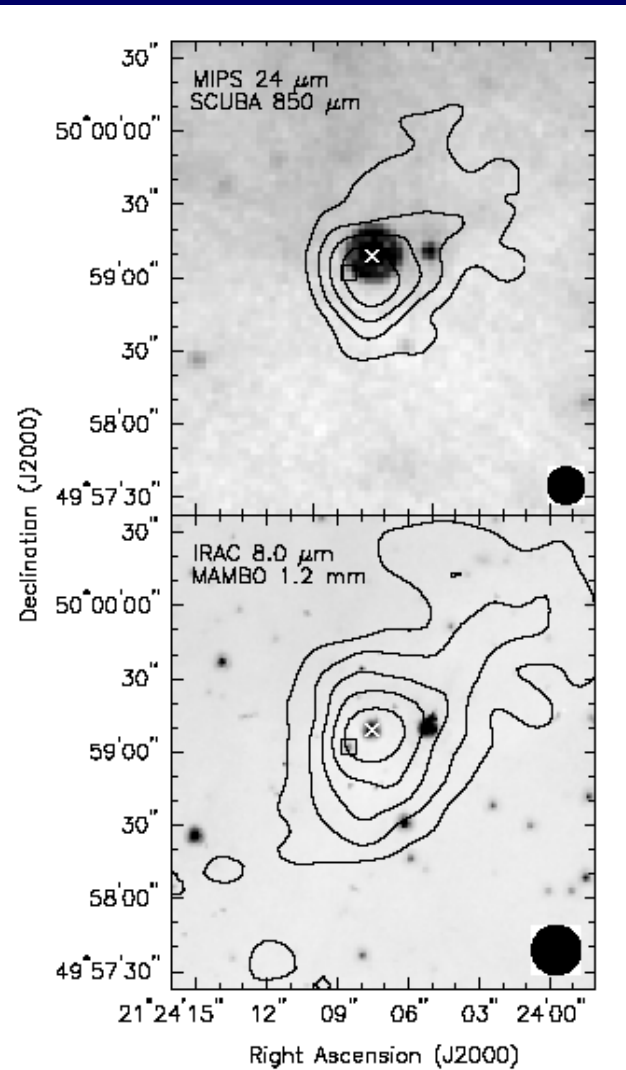
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- Sensitivity
  - The lowest mass protostars are now within reach
- Large Detector Arrays
  - True imaging in the far infrared
  - Properly sampled PSF at long wavelengths
  - Efficient spectroscopic capability
- Efficient Mapping of Star Formation Regions
  - MIPS Scan map mode allows coverage of degree-scale areas
- Photometric Stability
  - Studies of even modest infrared excesses are enabled

# Spitzer Sensitivity



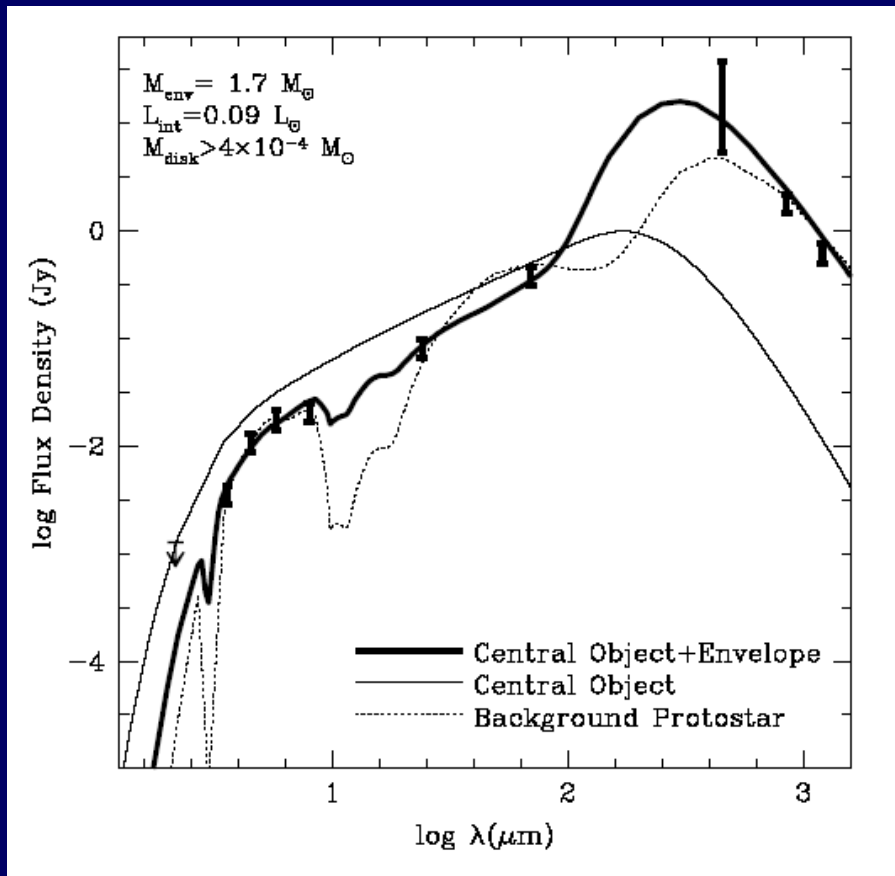
# “Starless” Core with Protostar



- Cores to Disks Legacy Program
  - Neal Evans, PI.
- L 1014 Dark Cloud
  - Undetected by IRAS or ISO
  - Distance uncertain but it could be 200 pc based on lack of foreground stars

C. Young et al. (2004)

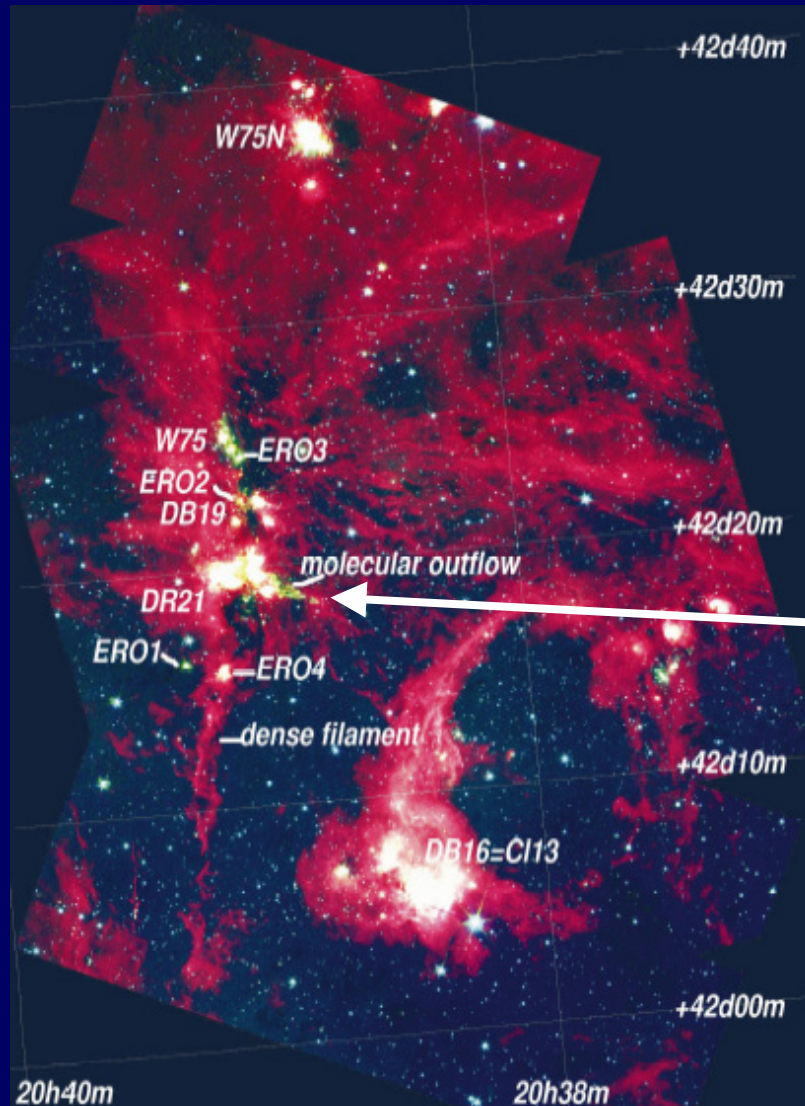
# L 1014 – IRS SED



- Internal source may be substellar
- Internal source has “hot” + “disk” components
- Envelope has enough mass to form normal star
- Another “starless” core has an embedded source

C. Young et al. (2004)

# DR 21 IRAC Observation



The large-scale IRAC view of the DR 21 region.

3.6  $\mu\text{m}$  band (blue)  
4.5  $\mu\text{m}$  band (green)  
8.0  $\mu\text{m}$  band (red)

Molecular Outflows are prominent in the 4.5  $\mu\text{m}$  band.

Marston et al. (2004)

# NGC 7129 IRAC Observations

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IRAC Image of NGC 7129 in Cepheus.

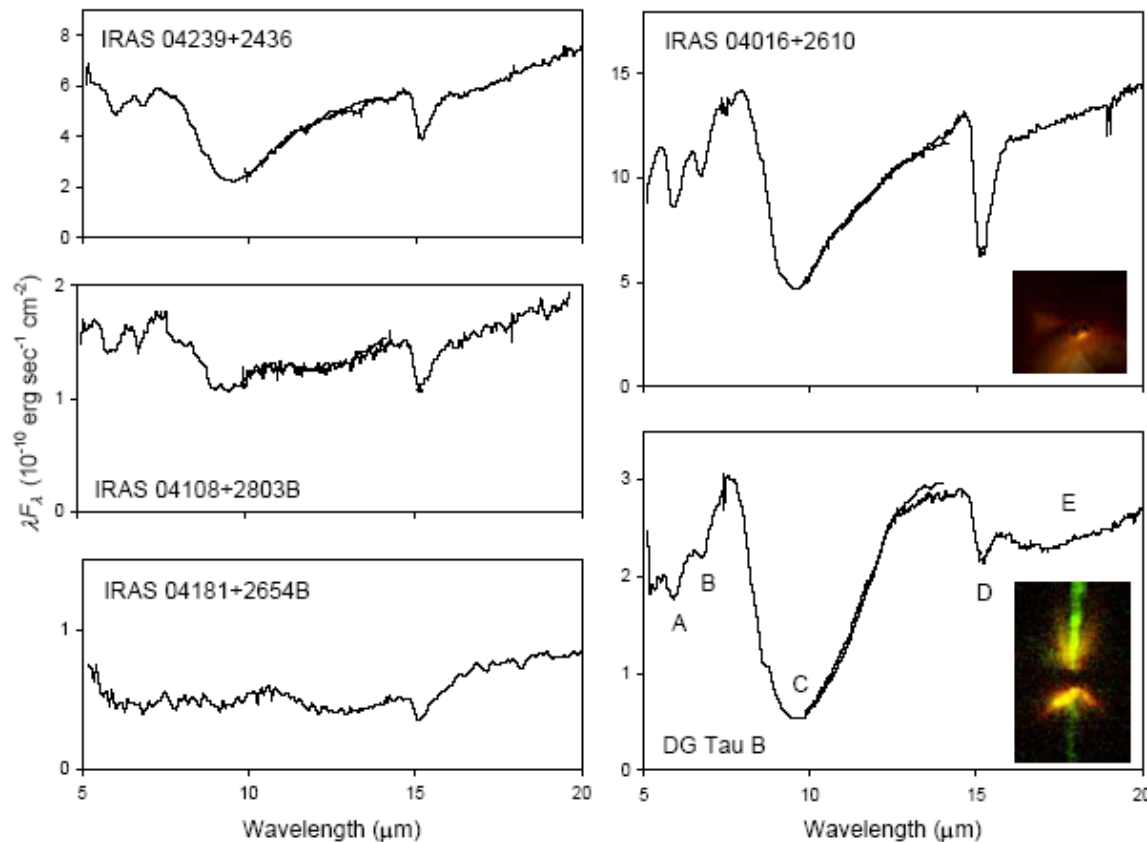
3.6  $\mu\text{m}$  band (blue)  
4.5  $\mu\text{m}$  band (green)  
8.0  $\mu\text{m}$  band (red)

Molecular Outflows are prominent in the 4.5  $\mu\text{m}$  band.

Megeath et al. (2004)



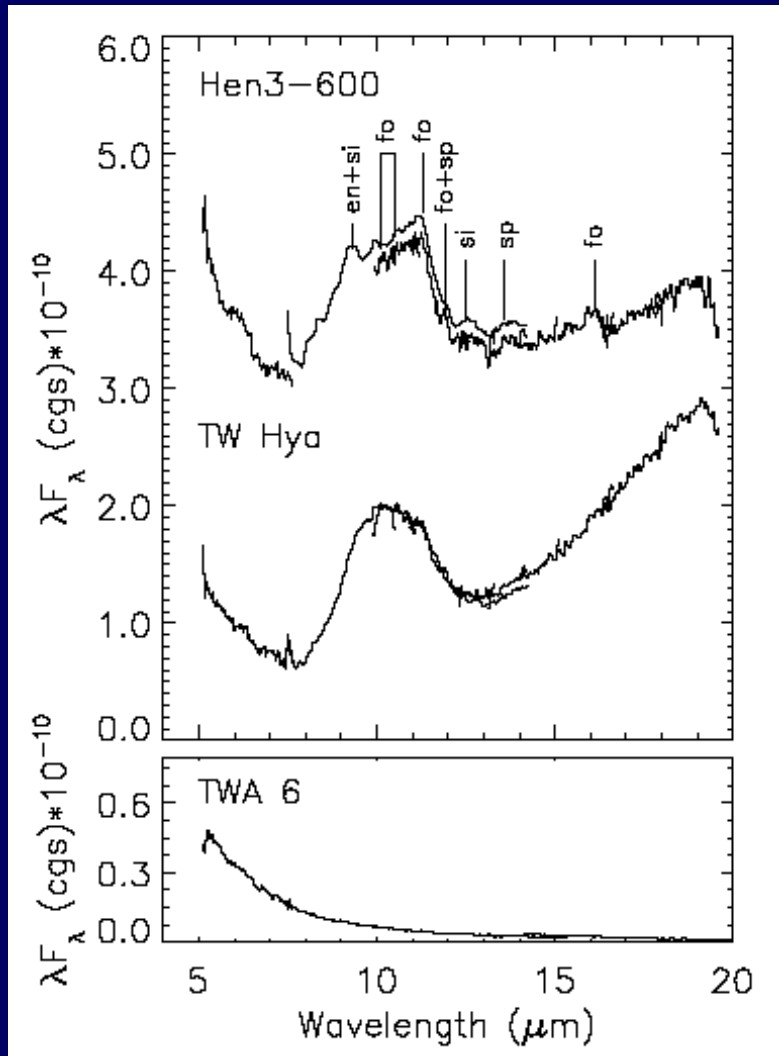
# IRS Spectra of Class I Sources in Taurus



- A= H<sub>2</sub>O
- B= CH<sub>3</sub>OH
- C=Silicates
- D=CO<sub>2</sub>
- E=Silicates

Watson et al (2004)

# IRS Spectra of the TWA Members



- TW Hydra Association  
~10 M yr Age
- 2 out of 7 stars have detectible excess emission
- Indication of silicate emission with highly processed minerals
  - Enstatite, Fosterite, Spinel

Uchida et al. (2004)

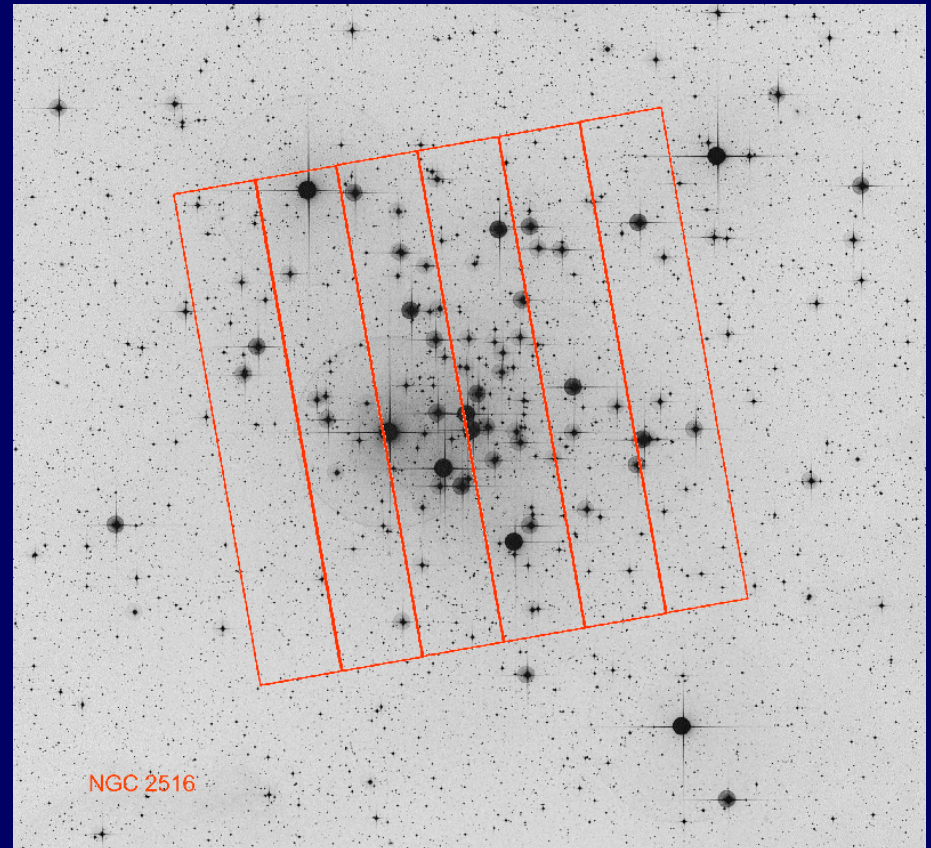
# Open Questions About Disks

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- When exactly does the thick disk dissipate?
  - Function of stellar mass?
  - Function of environment?
- Is the dissipation of the disk associated with the formation of large bodies in the stellar system?
  - Theory suggests that the accretion process for planetary bodies is very rapid.
- What are the details of the clearing process?
  - Where does the clearing start?

# Spitzer Young Cluster Disk Survey

- Observing Strategy
  - 23 young fields  
<1 Myr to 150 Myr
  - Efficient collection of data for hundreds of stars in a coeval group
  - SIRTf Mid and Far Infrared sensitive to dust much farther from star than ground-based observations
  - Typical Area :  $0.5^\circ \times 0.5^\circ$
- MIPS Scan Maps
  - 24, 70, &  $160\ \mu\text{m}$
- Matching IRAC Maps
  - 3.6, 4.5, 5.8,  $8.0\ \mu\text{m}$

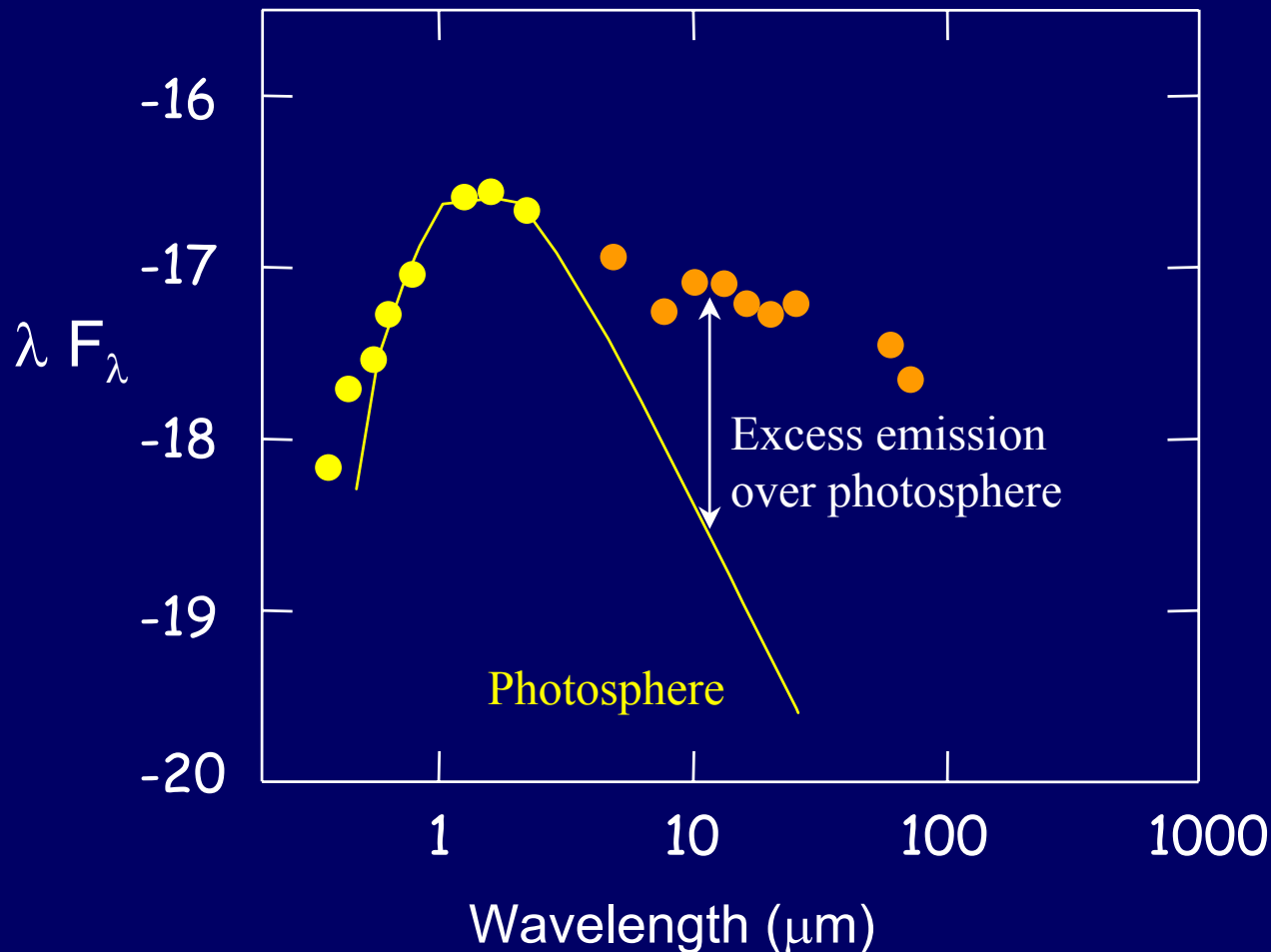


# Disk Survey Collaborators

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- Charlie Lada
- James Muzerolle
- John Stauffer
- George Rieke
- Paula Teixeira
- Elizabeth Lada
- Gus Muench
- Karl Gordon
- John Stansberry
- Tom Megeath
- Lori Allen
- Lee Hartmann
- Jane Morrison
- Chas Beichman
- Dean Hines
- Ken Wood
- Amy Mainzer
- Ian McLean
- Eric Persson
- & MIPS IDT

# Spectral Energy Distributions Reveal Disk Structure



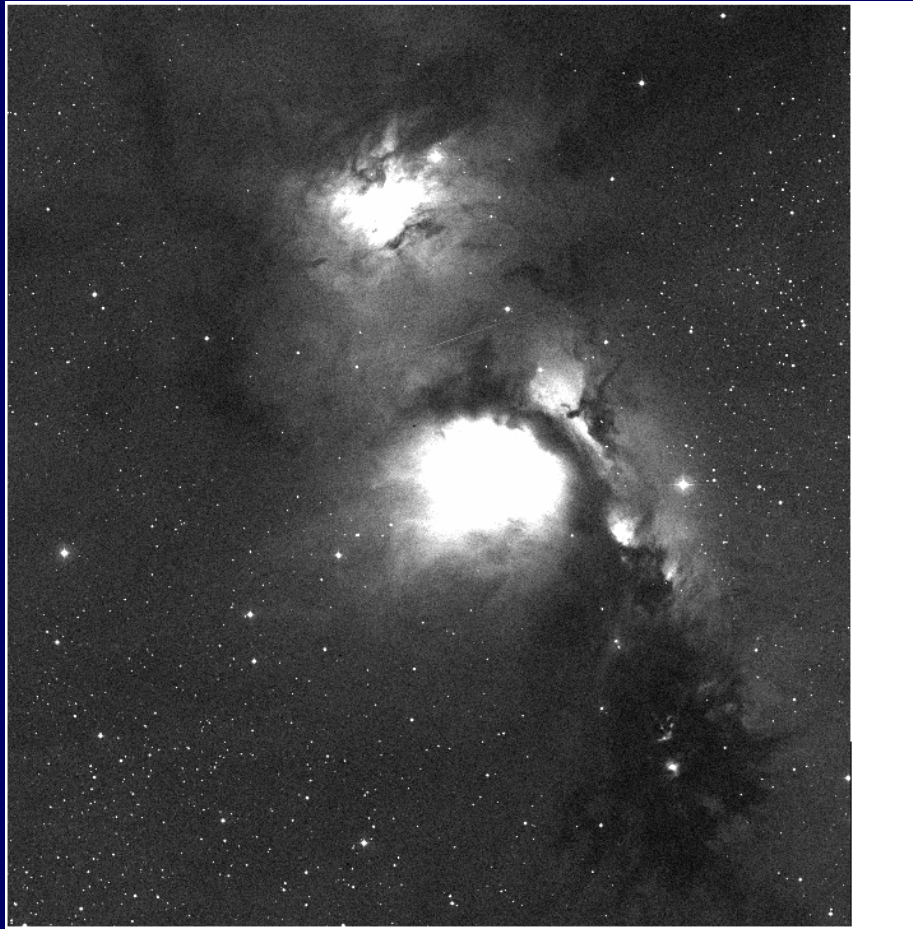
- Mid and Far-IR is sensitive to dust in the key planet-forming regions
- Far IR represents thermal dust emission.
- ISO and ground based observations indicate the disk clears after a few million years.
- Samples have been limited by sensitivity or confusion.

# The Sample

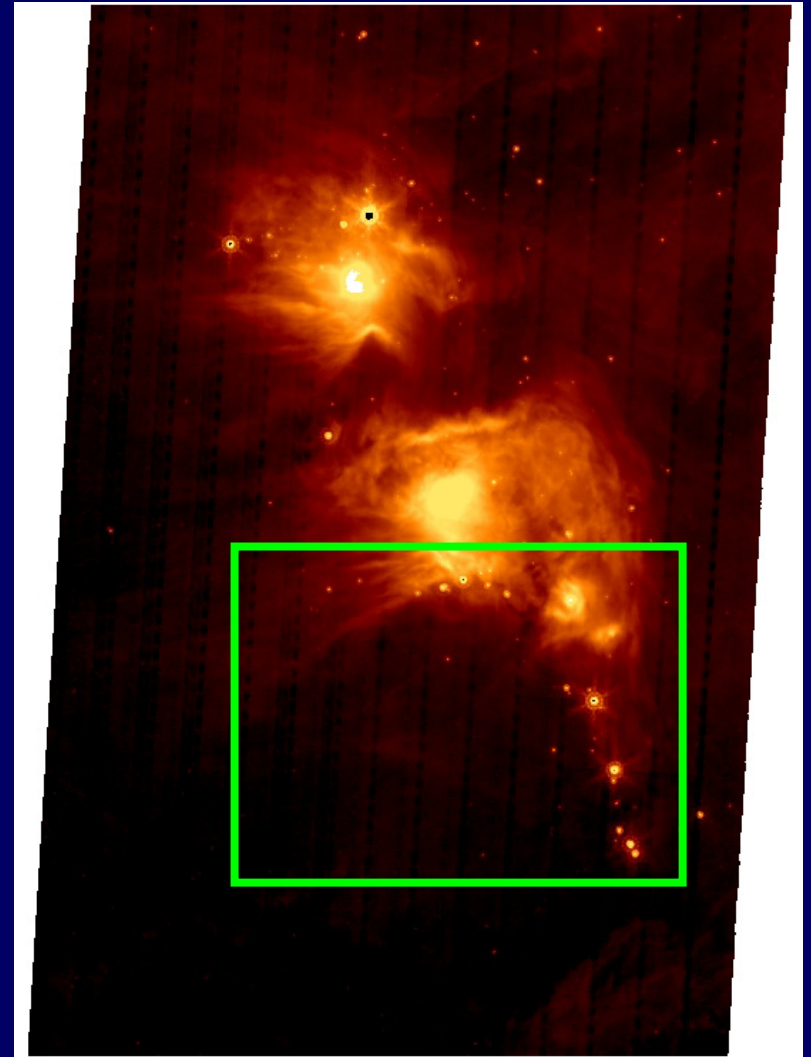
	No O-stars	Single O-star	O-star Rich
<b>&lt; 3 Myr</b>	$\rho$ Oph, NGC 1333, NGC 2071, NGC 2068	Trapezium, $\sigma$ Ori IC 1396	
<b>3-10 Myr</b>	IC 348, IC 5146, NGC 869, NGC 884	NGC 7160 NGC 2264, NGC 2362	NGC 6231, NGC 2244
<b>10-40 Myr</b>	NGC 2547, IC 2395	NGC 2451	
<b>&gt;40 Myr</b>	NGC 2516, Pleiades	NGC 2391	



# NGC 2068/ 2071



DSS

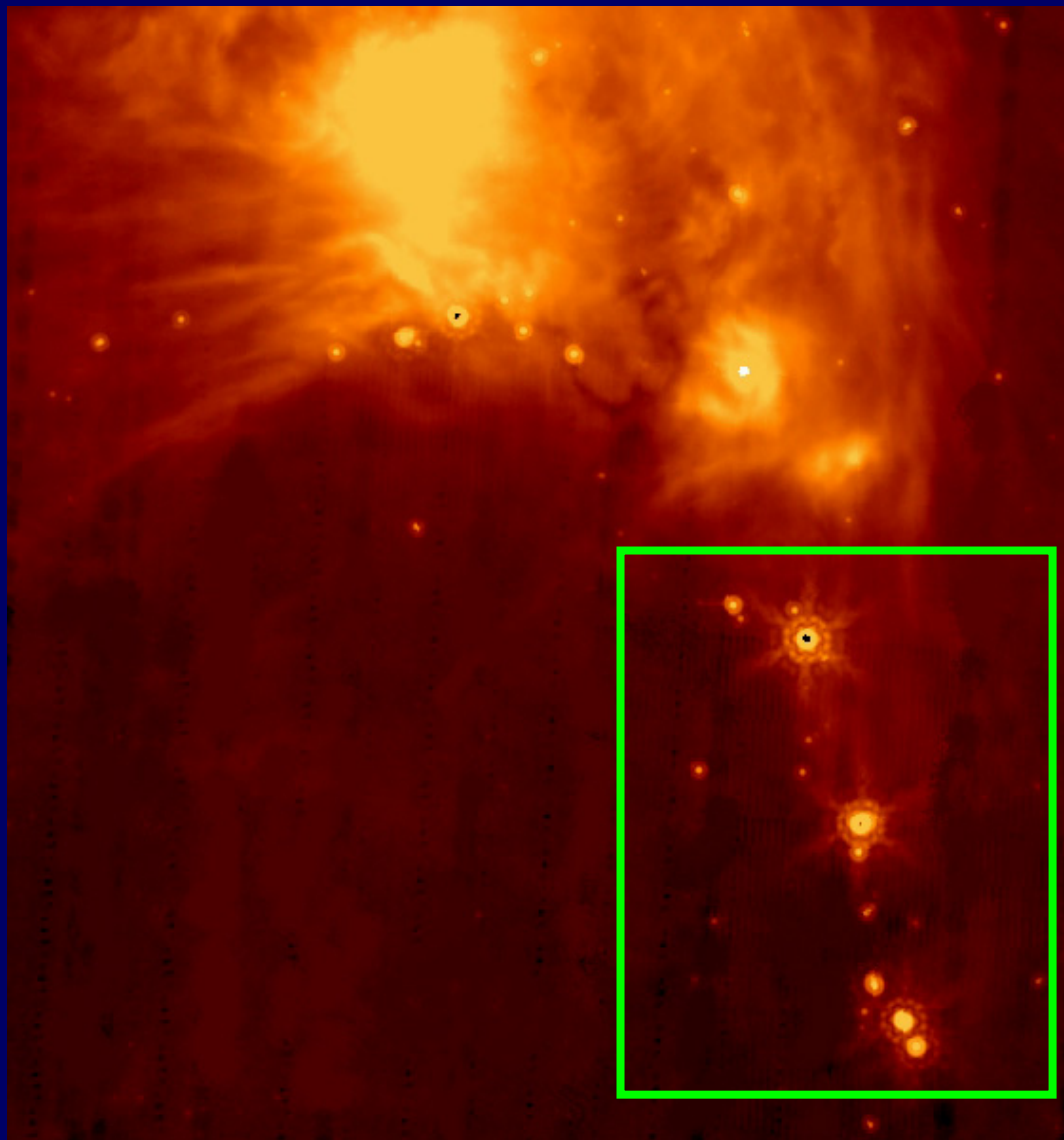


MIPS 24  $\mu$ m



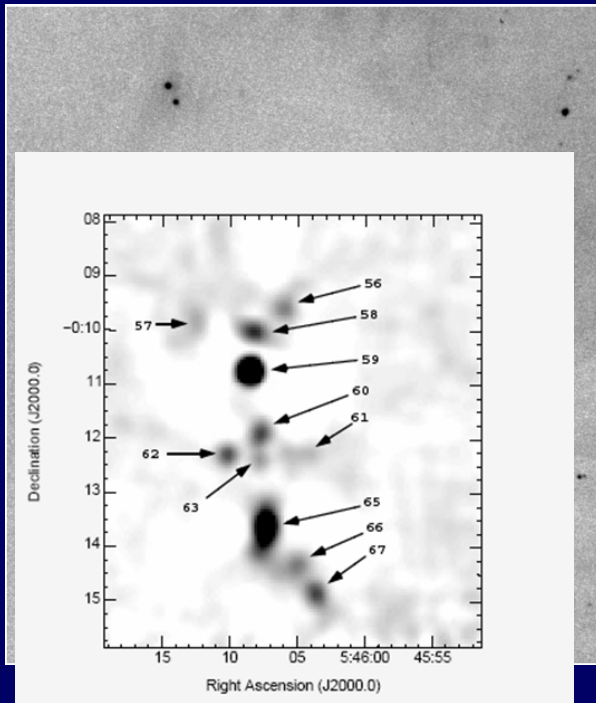
# NGC 2068

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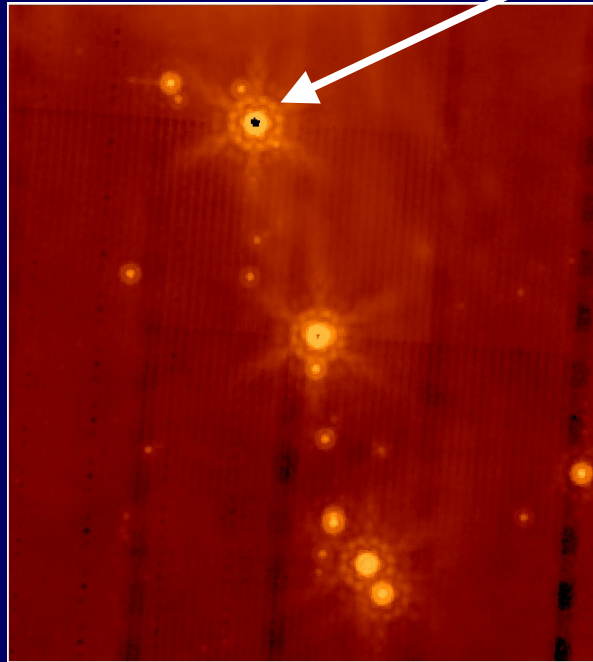


# HH 24 Region

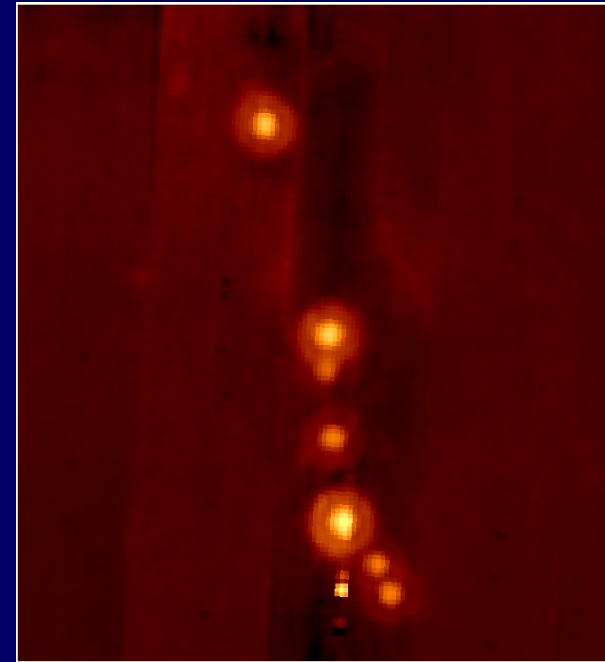
McNiel's Nebula



DSS  
850  $\mu\text{m}$

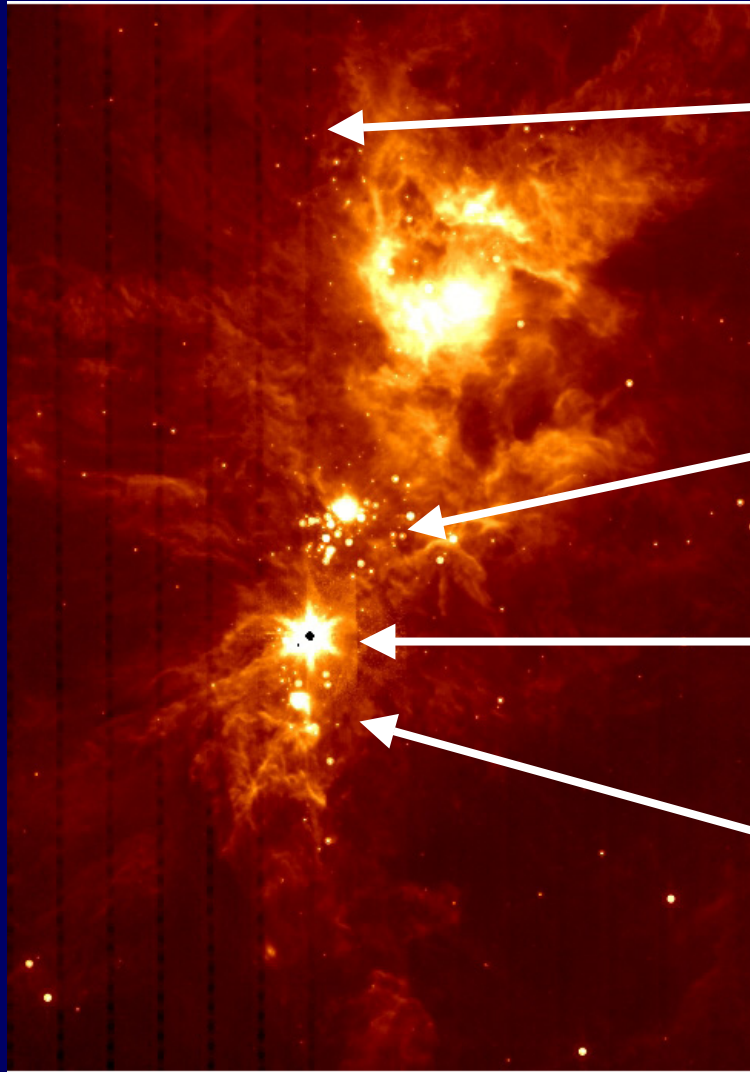


MIPS 24  $\mu\text{m}$



MIPS 70  $\mu\text{m}$

# NGC 2264



VLA-2

IR Cluster

Allen's Star

Cone Nebula

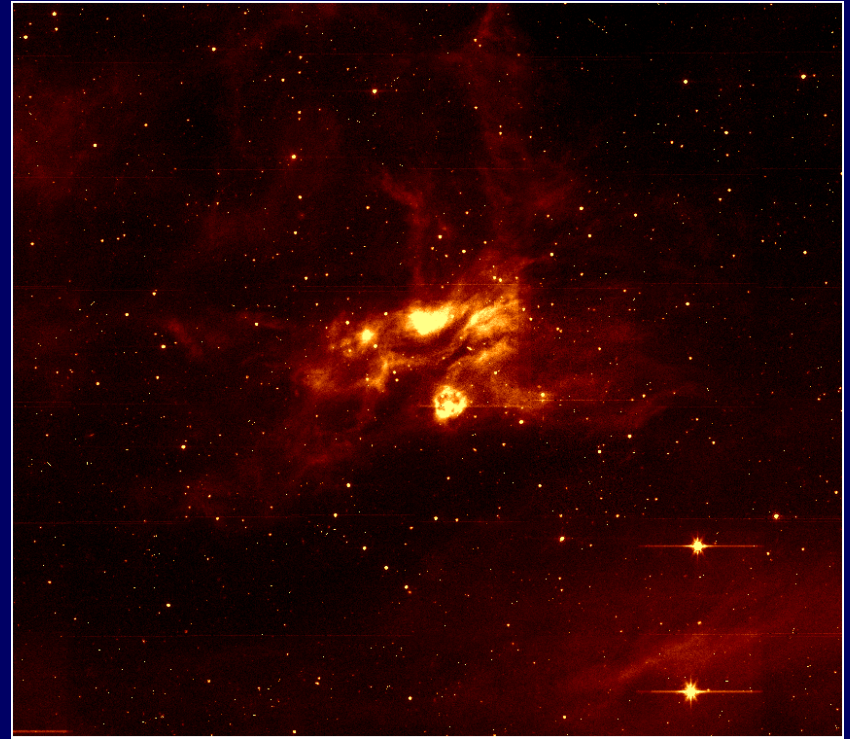
MIPS 24  $\mu\text{m}$  Scan Map

# NGC 2547

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$3.6\ \mu\text{m}$



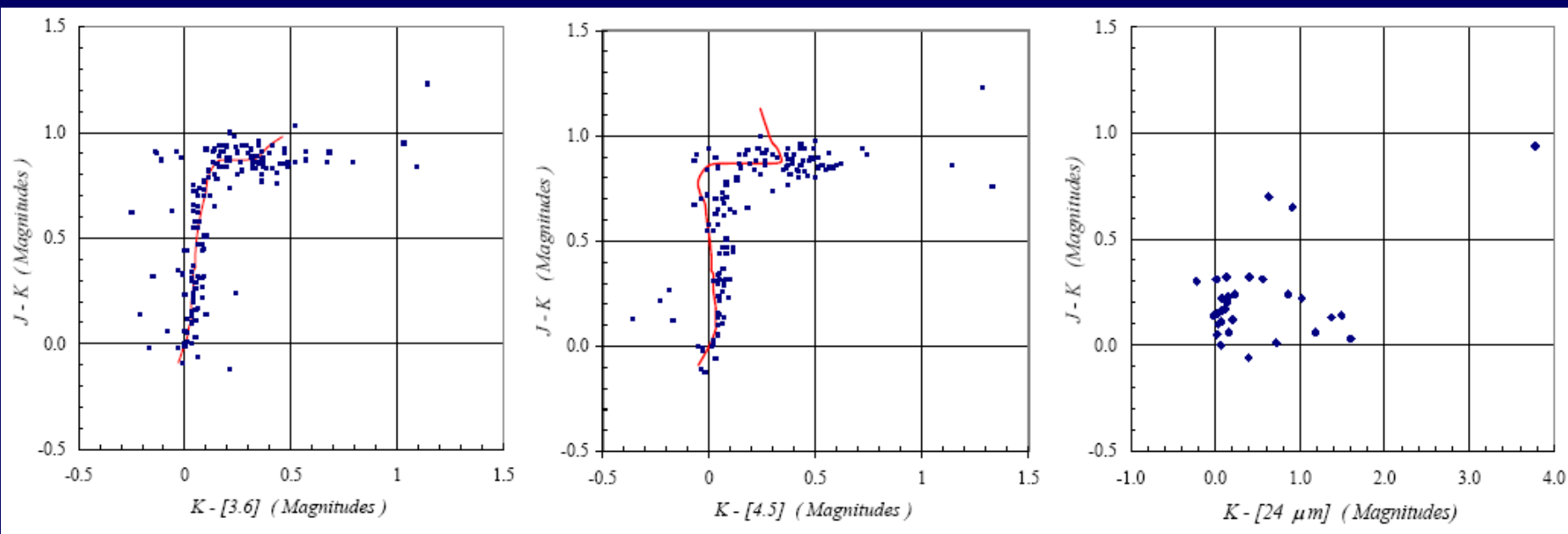
$8\ \mu\text{m}$



# NGC 2547 Composite



# NGC 2547 Color-Color Plots



# Results

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- In the IRAC bands there is no evidence for excess infrared emission for any stars earlier than K5.
- For some of the M-stars, there may be some excess emission, but careful calibration of the intrinsic colors is still needed.
- At 24  $\mu\text{m}$ , modest fraction of the stars show excess despite having photospheric colors at shorter wavelengths.

## Summary

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- Spitzer early results already demonstrate its power in star formation studies
  - Sensitivity to examine very low mass star formation
  - Wavelength coverage to address very early stages
  - Ability to get a global view of the process
- Future needs
  - Better Angular Resolution
  - Longer Wavelength Coverage
  - Velocity-Resolved Spectral Resolution in Sub-mm
    - Key Sub-mm lines of Carbon, Nitrogen, and Oxygen



# Pleiades



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# SPITZER AND BEYOND INFINITY

